ME456.01  GERIATRIC MEDICINE

Subinternship/Inpatient  Location: WVA  Revised: 10/07/10

COURSE CHAIR:  Shawkat Dhanani, M.D.  PHONE #: (310) 268-3036
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REPORT TO: Bldg. 500, Room 2238 (2 East B), 8:00 a.m. on first day.

COLLEGE AFFILIATION: Urban Underserved

AVAILABLE FOR EXTERNS: Yes

STUDENTS / PERIOD: max 2 min 1

DURATION: 3 weeks

2010-2011 ROTATIONS BEGIN WEEKS:
3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39, 42, 45, 48

DESCRIPTION: This is one of the electives of the Multi-campus Division of Geriatric Medicine, which encompasses programs at the VAMC West Los Angeles (Wadsworth), VAMC Sepulveda, and the UCLA Medical Center. All students, regardless of primary site, will participate in the following multicampus educational activities: Weekly Tuesday Clinical Conference, Research Seminar, and Journal Club.

STUDENT EXPERIENCES

CLOSE CONTACT WITH:
X FULL-TIME FACULTY
X CLINICAL FACULTY
X FELLOWS
X RESIDENTS
X INTERNS
X OTHER: Nurses, pharmacy, social work, audiology, optometry

COMMON PROBLEMS/DISEASES
1. Arteriosclerotic heart disease
2. Dementia/ Delirium
3. Incontinence
4. Infections
5. Sensory impairment
6. Falls
7. Failure to thrive

APPROXIMATE # OF PATIENTS EVALUATED EACH WEEK BY STUDENT: 1 - 2

TOTAL # OF PATIENTS EVALUATED EACH WEEK BY ENTIRE SERVICE: 5 - 7

COURSE OBJECTIVES (in order of importance)
1. To be able to recall etiology of dementia, urinary incontinence; activities of daily living. Analysis of neuropsychological testing in memory impairment, indications for medications vs. potential for adverse drug events vs. application of disease management clinical guidelines. Synthesize and plan for approach to common geriatric syndromes (memory loss, weight loss, loss of function, urinary incontinence, falls, etc.)
2. To be able to demonstrate competency in comprehensive geriatric assessment (history of multiple medical problems, social support and functional assessment, cognition, mood assessment, gait and balance evaluation, etc.). Demonstrate effective interaction in interdisciplinary team meetings and gain insight into how to extract knowledge from other disciplines and how to utilize their skills and focus team members on care plan goals and timeframe. Demonstrate effective communication of care plan, expectations.
3. Open to understanding distinctions between geriatric care and usual medical care of older adults, as well as show understanding, respect, a positive attitude and an understanding for the health and goals of geriatric patients.

TYPICAL WEEKLY SCHEDULE

ON-CALL SCHEDULE & WEEKEND ACTIVITIES: No night calls. See assigned patients on weekends.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Students will have the opportunity to learn about problems associated with aging through hands-on care under careful clinical supervision with supplemental learning, formal didactic conferences and seminars. Additionally, students will participate and experience the multidisciplinary approach to delivering health care.